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10 January, 2004

Docket Management System, U.S. Department of Transportation, Room Plaza 401, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC 20590-0001.

Dear Sir or Madam:

I am **OPPOSED** to the proposed Notice for Rule Making for Docket Number FAA-1998-4521. - //?

I am an American aviation enthusiast, and it is my understanding that this proposed rule by the FAA could effectively preclude our organization from providing this valuable and widely appreciated service to the American public.

Having read the documentation presented in the October 22, 2003 Federal Register (Volume 68, Number 204), it appears to me that a problem with a small segment of flying operations in certain areas of the country is being attacked with a wholesale change in the rules for aviation in general.

It is my belief that the vast majority of flying operations that provide rides in aircraft and charge a small fee to cover expenses or provide funds for charitable organizations are completely safe, and are currently adequately governed by the provisions of Part 91. Requiring everyone to move to and operate under the provisions of Part 135, is, in my opinion, a change that is not necessary.

I respectively request that you reconsider the provisions of FAA rule 1998-4521, the Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM), and allow ride-for-hire provisions to remain a Part 91 activity.

In this, the second century of flight, we need to be sure flight operations are safe, but the rules are not so tight that we will loose our connection to the discovery of flight for generations to come.

Sincerely

Larry D. Livingston CW4 US Army Retired

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